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earth shall have established freedom like our own and shall have sanctioned the pursuit of peace as we have practiced it, I believe the last sorrow and the final sacrifice of international warfare will have been written.

Our Supreme Task

Our supreme task is the resumption of our onward normal way. Reconstruction, readjustment, restoration—all these must follow. I would like to hasten them. If it will lighten the spirit and add to the resolution with which we take up the task, let me repeat for our nation, we shall give no people just cause to make war upon us. We hold no national prejudices; we entertain no spirit of revenge; we do not hate; we do not covet; we dream of no conquest nor boast of armed prowess.

War never left us such an aftermath. There has been staggering loss of life and measureless wastage of materials. Nations are still groping for return to stable ways. Discouraging indebtedness confronts us, like all war-torn nations; and these obligations must be provided for. No civilization can survive repudiation.

I speak for administrative efficiency, for lightened tax burdens, for sound commercial practices, for adequate credit facilities, for sympathetic concern for agricultural problems, for the omissions of unnecessary interference of government with business, for an end to government's experiments with business, and for a more efficient business in government administration. With all of this must attend a mindfulness of the human side of all activities, so that industrial and economic justice will be squared with the purposes of a righteous people.

Service the Supreme Commitment

Service is the supreme commitment of life. I would rejoice to acclaim the era of the Golden Rule and crown it with the autocracy of service. I pledge an administration wherein all the agencies of government are called to serve and ever promote an understanding of government purely as an expression of the popular will.

One cannot stand in this presence and be unmindful of the tremendous responsibility. The world upheaval has added heavily to our tasks. But with the realization comes the surge of high resolve, and there is reassurance in belief in the God-given destiny of our Republic. If I felt that there is to be sole responsibility in the Executive for the America of tomorrow, I should shrink from the burden. But here are a hundred millions, with common concern and shared responsibility, answerable to God and country. The Republic summons them to their duty and I invite co-operation.

I accept my part with single-mindedness of purpose and humility of spirit and implore the favor and guidance of God in His Heaven. With these I am unafraid and confidently face the future.

I have taken the solemn oath of office on that passage of Holy Writ wherein it is asked, "What doth the Lord require of thee but to do justly, and to love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God." This I plight to God and country.

IT IS REPORTED

That fifty thousand Chinese sufferers are being fed today by the American Red Cross.

That the United States is spending \$90,000,000 a year more on tobacco than on education.

That it is estimated that 80,000 people in Prague and 30,000 in Pilsen have recently seceded from the Roman Catholic Church.

That traffic through the Panama Canal during the calendar year 1920 exceeded that during any previous period of twelve months.

That automobile and other vehicular accidents attain their maximum percentage of fatalities among children from five to nine years of age.

That the New York City subways carried over 586,000,000 passengers in 1920—a number greater than the entire population of Europe.

That the Belgian Senate has approved the proposal to bury the body of an unknown Belgian soldier beneath a monument to those who died in the war.

That Porto Rico is one of the most densely populated countries in the world, having a population of 1,198,970 living on 3,888 square miles of territory.

That for the first time in the history of the Church of England in Jamaica, women have this year been elected members of the committees of several churches.

That Petrograd, which at the beginning of the World War had a population of 2,500,000, is now reported as having only 750,000, and is familiarly known as "A Ghost Town."

That a bill has been introduced by the Dutch Minister for Education for the compulsory physical training of the entire Dutch population between sixteen and nineteen years of age.

That Rheims will celebrate the return of the statue of Joan of Arc, removed from the city during the heavy bombardments of 1918, by a pageant and fête, which will be held on July 16 and 17.

That four paintings, including a Corot of great value, have been found in the store-room of a small shop near Valenciennes, these probably having been hidden and left there by the Germans in 1918.

That funds for the establishment and maintenance of a commercial school at Shanghai, China, have been provided by the Chinese and French governments, the school to be under the control of the two nations.

That a chamber of commerce, to be known as the American Chamber of Commerce of Egypt, with headquarters at Alexandria, was organized at the American Consulate November 20, 1920, by American business men at Alexandria and Cairo.

That a new steamship line has been established by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company between Rotterdam and the west coast of South America, the new line serving Holland, the Rhine Valley, Basel, and Zurich.

That the Japanese House of Representatives has adopted a bill giving women the right to attend political meetings, this being held to be an important advance toward the emancipation of Japanese womanhood.

That, after experiments extending over more than ten years, a Swedish engineer is stated to have succeeded in inventing a speaking film which, it is claimed, ensures the absolutely simultaneous production of sound and picture.

That Australia is to have a health department, which will have the assistance of the Rockefeller Institute experts, to deal with health in general and with industrial hygiene and industrial and tropical diseases in particular.

That the Paris University Library is to have a collection of gramophone records reproducing the voices of the great men of modern France, for which the three marshals of France will be asked to read the most famous orders which they issued during the war.

That Japan is short 125,000 houses, and that an attempt is being made to arouse public interest in solving the difficulty by having an exhibition of models of buildings, to which all associations of architects and engineers and societies for the study of architecture will be asked to send models.

That steps are being taken toward the establishment in Leipzig, Germany, of a national museum of economics, to be known as the *Institut fuer Deutsche Volkswirtschaft*, the purpose of which is to be research, instruction, and stimulation of interest in Germany's resources.

That the Italy-America Society in New York has offered to the undergraduate of any American college or university who prepares the best essay on the subject of "Italy's Contribution to Modern Culture" a trip to Italy to see the art, industry, and commerce of that nation as it is today, the trip to be during the coming summer.

That great interest is being displayed by the Japanese in the development of commercial aviation, and that manufacturers of airplanes and their accessories are going to Japan to open up business with the Japanese, whose ultimate object is to establish land and coast routes for commercial purposes in various parts of the Eastern Empire.

That the trans-Pacific markets offer the best field for American trade development, the United States importing more from the countries of Asia today than any other quarter of the world, barring North America, while in exports across the Pacific the United States sends out goods into the Orient to a value exceeded only by the European and North American trade.

GERMANY, REPARATIONS, AND ALLIES' ACTION

London Conference Futile—France and Belgium Insistent—Final German Terms Rejected—Invasion of Rhine Region

Negotiations between Great Britain and France, held on the Sunday before the second reparations conference with Germany convened in London, March 1, had brought the two dominant nations of the Allies closer in an agreed-upon policy than they were when the first conference was held at Paris. The British Prime Minister, it is true, was hopeful of German concessions, more hopeful than were the French or Belgians; but at the same time negotiations had brought him to assent to a naval and military policy against Germany, should it be thought necessary after conference with the German commissioners. The French, less optimistic, had massed larger bodies of troops along the Rhine and stood "fit" ready for an advance into Germany.

On March 1 the conference opened, and the German Foreign Minister presented to the premiers of the Allies a scheme calling for immediate definite fixing of the capital sum to be paid. It should not exceed fifty billion gold marks and be payable within thirty years. Moreover, Germany was to be credited with twenty billion gold marks already paid. Aid was to be given by the Allies in financing an international loan, and in 1926 reparation debts not covered by this loan would be subject to adjustment of terms by the Allies. As to the export tax demanded by the Allies at the Paris meeting, Germany, accepting it in principle, nevertheless asked for modification of the amount. Upper Silesia's plebiscite must be called off, for Germany, it was said, cannot recover economically unless she retains this region; and, in recuperating for the task of paying the burdens imposed, Germany must have consideration when her allies enact tariffs and trade rulings.

The British Prime Minister at once attacked the German delegates for their government's apparent failure to "sense the actualities in the situation," or to realize that Germany was a vanquished foe and not a victor dictating "impossible terms" to the defeated. He called for immediate adjournment of the conference, which followed. Notice was at once formally given that juridical and military advisers would be consulted by the premiers, and the conference reassemble on the morrow.

On March 2 the premiers presented to the German commissioners the text of a decree from the Supreme Council of the Allies, sanctioning occupation of German territory on the right bank of the Rhine by forces of the Allies and collection of customs and taxes therein, if Germany persisted in rejecting the Paris conference's reparations demands.

This attitude of the Allies, reported back to Germany, at first aroused universal resentment. As the days wore on, opinion became divided. On the 6th there were signs that the Berlin Government was preparing counter-proposals that might prove the basis for a compromise; but on the 7th, when the conference formally reopened, Dr. Simons said that Germany could not accept either the Paris or the London demands, and that it had decided not to present any new scheme other than the one made known on the 1st.